



# WA STATE BUDGET 2019-20

## DELIVERING FOR THE WHEATBELT

The McGowan Government is delivering its plan for the Wheatbelt, with funding in the State Budget to create local jobs and support the local economy, while delivering important community infrastructure and services.

The 2019-20 State Budget includes \$4.2 billion in Royalties for Regions funding across regional WA. More than \$5.6 billion will be invested in regional infrastructure over the next four years.

## SNAPSHOT ON THE WHEATBELT

### CREATING JOBS AND SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY

- **\$131.5 million additional expenditure to support agriculture in WA**, grow export markets and create long-term jobs, including \$39.6 million for the **Boosting Biosecurity Defences, Asian Market Success and Grains Research and Development support programs** (*In addition to the \$45 million for Grains Research and Development in the 2018-19 budget*)
- \$275 million for the **Bindoon Bypass along Great Northern Highway**
- \$18 million to **upgrade Great Eastern Highway from Walgoolan to Southern Cross**
- \$87.5 million for the **Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Route**
- \$2 million to **establish a national park in the Helena and Aurora Ranges** as part of Plan for Our Parks
- **\$12 million state-wide injection to Tourism WA** to expand promotion on Western Australia overseas
- \$24.1 million in ongoing funding for the **'WA Open for Business' program to promote export opportunities for regional businesses**
- \$182.4 million state-wide funding for a new Employer Incentive Scheme and training delivery, including \$45 million for regional WA. The scheme will **help WA employers with the costs of employing apprentices and trainees**

### DELIVERING BETTER HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

- \$42.5 million in additional funding for the **Methamphetamine Action Plan**
- \$11.3 million to **support and expand sustainable service delivery of PCYCs** across the State to reduce juvenile offending and improve community safety
- \$2.3 million package to **combat elder abuse**, including continued funding for the WA Elder Abuse Helpline
- \$34.6 million for the roll out of **personal issue mobile smart tablets for police officers**
- \$15.4 million towards the roll-out of **personal issue multi-threat body armour** to frontline police officers
- \$8.1 million for the **Suicide Prevention Strategy**
- \$4.8 million for **enhanced driver training and education for regional and remote communities**
- Investing an additional **\$713,000 to maintain regional bus services**
- \$19.9 million for the **Regional Arts and Cultural Investment program**
- Introduction of the **new Regional Taxi Transition Fund**

## PROJECTS UNDERWAY OR COMPLETED IN THE WHEATBELT

- \$17.2 million towards **road safety treatments to the Great Eastern Highway**
- \$22.3 million on **upgrades to Indian Ocean Drive**
- \$10 million of funding allocated to AgLime transport networks to **support the safe and efficient travel of freight vehicles**
- \$3.7 million to **support educational programs at Muresk Institute of Agriculture**
- \$4.8 million investment into the **Narrogin and Northam Cancer Centres** to strengthen cancer services in regional WA
- \$16.7 million for the **redevelopment and upgrade of Merredin District Hospital** in the Eastern Wheatbelt District and the **Narrogin District Health Campus** in the Upper Great Southern District
- \$1.7 for a **renal dialysis program**
- \$65 million across regional WA to **continue to support Community Resources Centres**
- \$170.5 million across regional WA to continue the **Country Age Pension Fuel Card** and \$5.1 million for the **Volunteer Fuel Card**